U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/576,881

mendment filed December 23, 2008

Reply to OA dated July 23, 2008

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A transparent conductive multi-layer structure which

comprises a smooth base material, a transparent conductive layer formed on the smooth base

material by coating, an auxiliary electrode layer formed in a pattern on the transparent conductive

layer, and a transparent substrate joined to the transparent conductive layer and auxiliary electrode

layer through an adhesive layer; the smooth base material being peelable from the transparent

conductive layer;

the smooth base material comprising plastics; and the transparent conductive layer formed

by a coating comprising conductive fine oxide particles of from 1 to 100 nm in average particle

diameter and a binder component.

Claim 2 (Original): The transparent conductive multi-layer structure according to claim 1,

wherein said auxiliary electrode layer has a pattern in the shape of a lattice, the shape of a mesh, the

shape of a honeycomb, the shape of parallel lines or the shape of the teeth of a comb.

Claim 3 (Previously presented): The transparent conductive multi-layer structure according

to claim 1, wherein said auxiliary electrode layer comprises at least one selected from fine metal

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particles, fine carbon particles and fine ruthenium oxide particles, or at least one selected from fine

metal particles, fine carbon particles and fine ruthenium oxide particles and a binder component.

Claim 4 (Previously presented): The transparent conductive multi-layer structure according

to claim 1, wherein said auxiliary electrode layer comprises a first auxiliary electrode layer formed

on the transparent conductive layer and a second auxiliary electrode layer formed on the first

auxiliary electrode layer; said first auxiliary electrode layer comprising at least one selected from fine

carbon particles, fine ruthenium particles and fine ruthenium oxide particles and a binder component,

and said second auxiliary electrode layer comprising fine metal particles and a binder component.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): The transparent conductive multi-layer structure according to

claim 1, which further comprises a transparent coat layer formed by coating between i) over said

auxiliary electrode layer and said transparent conductive layer at its areas standing not covered with

said pattern-shaped auxiliary electrode layer and ii) beneath said adhesive layer.

Claim 6 (Canceled):

Claim 7 (Previously presented): The transparent conductive multi-layer structure according

to claim 1, wherein said transparent conductive layer has been subjected to rolling to make the

conductive fine oxide particles dense.

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Claim 8 (Previously presented): The transparent conductive multi-layer structure according

to claim 1, wherein said adhesive layer is mixed with at least one additive selected from an

ultraviolet absorber, a dehydrating agent and a deoxidizer.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn): A process for manufacturing a transparent conductive multi-layer

structure, which comprises:

coating a smooth base material thereon with a transparent conductive layer forming coating

fluid prepared by dispersing conductive fine oxide particles in a solvent, followed by drying and

optionally curing to form a transparent conductive layer; a base material peelable from the

transparent conductive layer being used as the smooth base material;

forming an auxiliary electrode layer in a pattern on the transparent conductive layer; and

joining with an adhesive a transparent substrate to the auxiliary electrode layer formed and

to the transparent conductive layer at its areas standing not covered with the auxiliary electrode layer.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): The process for manufacturing a transparent conductive multi-layer

structure according to claim 9, wherein, after the coating with said transparent conductive layer

forming coating fluid, followed by drying, the transparent conductive layer is subjected to rolling.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): The process for manufacturing a transparent conductive multi-layer

structure according to claim 9, wherein said auxiliary electrode layer is formed by printing an

auxiliary electrode layer forming paste prepared by dispersing in a solvent or a solvent containing

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a binder at least one selected from fine metal particles, fine carbon particles and fine ruthenium oxide

particles, followed by curing.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn): The process for manufacturing a transparent conductive multi-layer

structure according to claim 9, wherein said auxiliary electrode layer and said transparent conductive

layer at its areas standing not covered with said pattern-shaped auxiliary electrode layer are coated

thereon with a transparent coat layer forming coating fluid containing a binder, followed by curing

to form a transparent coat layer, and thereafter said transparent substrate is joined with an adhesive

to the transparent coat layer.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): The process for manufacturing a transparent conductive multi-layer

structure according to claim 9, wherein said conductive fine oxide particles of said transparent

conductive layer forming coating fluid has an average particle diameter of from 1 to 100 nm.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): The process for manufacturing a transparent conductive multi-layer

structure according to claim 9, wherein said transparent conductive layer forming coating fluid

contains a binder.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): The process for manufacturing a transparent conductive multi-layer

structure according to claim 9, wherein said adhesive is mixed with at least one additive selected

from an ultraviolet absorber, a dehydrating agent and a deoxidizer.

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Claim 16 (Currently amended): A device which comprises the transparent conductive multi-layer structure according to any one of claims 1 to 8 1 to 5, 7 and 8, from which the smooth base material has been peeled off to have the transparent conductive layer and the auxiliary electrode layer which are joined to the transparent substrate through the adhesive layer.

Claim 17 (Original): The device according to claim 16, which is a dye-sensitized solar cell or an organic electroluminescent device.